

**ABSTRACT**

A handheld device is used to control the operation of a broadcast programming appliance, such as a television, and other media presentation devices. The device, preferably a remote control, has a display that is received from a wireless communications network that is distinct from that transmitting the broadcast programming. The device display includes content related to the broadcast programming content and is timed in relation to the time of the broadcast programming. The device is also able to transmit information and to interact via the wireless network in real time relative to the time of the broadcast programming.